

CONSULATE GENERAL  
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS  
2790 GREEN ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94123

PRESS-RELEASE

STATEMENT BY YURI ANDROPOV,  
GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE  
AND PRESIDENT OF THE PRESIDUM OF THE USSR SUPREME SOVIET

Moscow. September 28. TASS. Follows the full text of Yuri Andropov's statement:

The Soviet leadership deems it necessary to make known to Soviet people, other peoples and all those who are responsible for shaping the policy of states its assessment of the course pursued in international affairs by the present U.S. administration.

To speak briefly, this is a militarist course which poses a grave threat to peace. Its essence is to try and assure for the United States domineering positions in the world without reckoning with the interests of other states and peoples.

Precisely these aims are served by the unprecedented buildup of the U.S. military potential, large-scale programmes of manufacturing weapons of all types-nuclear, chemical and conventional. Now it plans to spread the unrestricted arms race into outer space too.

American military presence is expanded under invented pretexts of all sorts thousands of kilometres from U.S. territory. Strongholds are set up for direct armed interference in the affairs of other states, and for use of American weapons against any country which rejects Washington's diktat. As a result, tensions have grown world wide - in Europe, Asia, Africa, Middle East and Central America.

Other NATO countries are increasingly more involved into the implementation of these dangerous plans of Washington. More over, efforts are made to revive Japanese militarism and attach it to



the bloc's military-political machine. When doing so, attempts are made to compel people to forget the lessons of history.

Peoples judge about the policy of a government first of all by its actions. That is why when the U.S. president in his grandiloquent speech from the United Nations rostrum declares about commitment to the cause of peace, self-determination and sovereignty of peoples, these were declarations that can convince no one.

Even if someone had any illusions as to the possible evolution for the better in the policy of the present American administration, the latest developments have finally dispelled them. For the sake of its imperial ambitions, it goes so far that one begins to doubt whether Washington has any brakes at all preventing it from crossing the mark before which any sober-minded person must stop.

The sophisticated provocation, masterminded by U.S. special services with the use of a South Korean plane, is also an example of extreme adventurism in politics. We have elucidated the factual aspect of the action in a thorough and authentic way. The guilt of its organisers, no matter how hard they might dodge and what false versions they might put forward, has been proved.

The Soviet leadership expressed regret over the loss of human lives due to that unprecedented, criminal subversion. It is on the conscience of those who would like to assume the right not to reckon with the sovereignty of states and inviolability of their borders, who masterminded and carried out the provocation, who literally on the following day hastily pushed through Congress colossal military spending and are now rubbing their hands with pleasure.

Thus, the "humanism" of statesmen who are seeking to lay the blame for the death of people that were aboard the plane on others is turning into new heaps of weapons of mass destruction - from MX missiles to nerve gas containers.



In their striving to justify in some way their dangerous, inhuman policies, the same people pile heaps of slander on the Soviet Union, on socialism as a social system, with the tone being set by the U.S. president himself. One must say bluntly - it is an unattractive sight when, with a view to smearing the Soviet people, leaders of such a country as the United States resort to what almost amounts to obscenities alternating with hypocritical preaching about morals and humanism.

The world knows well the worth of such moralizing. In Vietnam, morality, as understood by leaders in Washington, was brought home with napalm and toxic agents, in Lebanon - it is being hammered in by salvos of naval guns, in El Salvador - this morality is being imposed by genocide. And the list of crimes can be continued. So, we do have what to say about the moral aspect of the U.S. policy as well: both by recalling history and by talking about the present time.

Now they in Washington breach along with morality also elementary norms of decency, showing disregard not only for statesmen and states, but also for the United Nations Organisation. A question arises: can the international organisation, called upon to maintain peace and security, remain in the country where outrageous militarist psychosis is imposed and the good name of the organisation is insulted?

Under the cover of anti-communism, contenders to the role of rulers of the destinies of the world are seeking to impose their orders wherever they do not encounter a rebuff.

The concepts themselves, used to justify such a manner of actions, would not attract any attention if not for the fact that they are preached by leaders of a major power, and not merely preached, but are put to use.

Transference of ideological contradictions to the sphere of inter-state relations has never benefited the one who resorted to it in external affairs. This is simply absurd and inadmissible at present, in the nuclear age. Transformation of the battle of



ideas into military confrontation would be too costly for the whole of mankind.

But those who are blinded by anti-communism are not, probably, able to ponder that. Starting with a scare of the "Soviet military threat", they have now proclaimed a "crusade" against socialism as a social system. Attempts are made to convince people that there is no room for socialism in the world. But they do not specify, though, that they mean the world according to Washington.

But wishes and possibilities are far from being the same thing, no one will ever be able to reverse the course of history. The USSR and other socialist countries will live and develop according to their laws - laws of the most advanced social system.

The Soviet State has successfully overcome many trials, including crucial ones, during the six and a half decades of its existence. Those who encroached on the integrity of our state, its independence and our system found themselves on the garbage heap of history. It is high time that everybody to whom this applies understood that we shall be able to ensure the security of our country, the security of our friends and allies under any circumstances.

Soviet people can be rest assured that our country's defence capability is maintained at such a level that it would not be advisable to anyone to stage a trial of strength.

On our part, we do not seek such a trial of strength. The very thought of this is alien to us. We do not separate, nor, the more so, counterpose the well-being of our people, the security of the Soviet State to the well-being and security of other peoples, other countries. One should not look at the world in the nuclear age through the narrow prism of one's selfish egoistic interests. Responsible statesmen have only one choice - to do everything possible to prevent nuclear catastrophe. Any other position is short-sighted, the more so, it is suicidal.



The Soviet leadership does not hesitate what line to follow in international affairs in the present-day acute situation as well. Our course remains to be aimed at preserving and strengthening peace, lessening tension, curbing the arms race and expanding and deepening cooperation between states. This is the invariable will of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, all Soviet people. These are, we are convinced, also the aspirations of all peoples.

Of course, malicious attacks on the Soviet Union produce here a natural feeling of indignation, but our nerves are strong, and we do not base our policy on emotions. It rests on common sense, realism, profound responsibility for the destinies of peace.

We proceed from the premise that mankind is not doomed to destruction. The arms race can and must be terminated. Mankind deserves better fate than living in a conflict-torn world, suffocating under the burden of deadly weapons.

By advancing far-reaching proposals on limitations and reductions of nuclear armaments, both strategic and medium-range in Europe, we show our concern not only for the security of the USSR, states of the socialist community, but also for the security of all other countries.

As to the U.S. policy, its growing militarisation is manifested among other things in the unwillingness to conduct serious talks of any kind, to come to agreement on questions of curbing the arms race.

The Soviet-American talks on the burning problem - reduction of nuclear armaments in Europe - have been going on for two years now. The position of the Soviet side is directed at finding mutually acceptable solutions on a fair, just basis, solutions which do not infringe anyone's legitimate interests. At the same time, these two years made it clear that our partners in the talks at Geneva are not at all there to reach an accord. Their task is different - to play for time and then start the deployment in Western Europe of ballistic Pershing 2 and long-range cruise missiles. They do not even try to conceal this.



All they do is prattle about some flexibility of the United States at the Geneva talks. Another portion of such "flexibility" has just materialised. And the deception contained in it has become clear this time as well. To leave aside details, the essence of the so-called new move in the U.S. position, billed as superb, is reduced to the proposal to agree, as before, on how many Soviet medium-range missiles should be reduced and how many new American missiles should be deployed in Europe in addition to the nuclear potential already possessed by NATO.

In brief, we are proposed to talk on how to help the NATO bloc to upset to its advantage the balance of medium-range nuclear systems in the European zone. And this move is presented brazenfacedly as something new.

The operation on stationing these American nuclear missiles in Europe is seen from Washington's control room as simple in the extreme and maximally advantageous for the United States - advantageous at the expense of Europe. The U.S. European allies are regarded as hostages. This is a frank, but cynical policy, but here is what is not really clear: does this thought occur to those European political figures who, disregarding the interests of their peoples, and the interests of peace, help implement the ambitious militarist plans of the U.S. administration?

There should be no room here for reticence. If, contrary to the will of the majority of people in Western European countries, American nuclear missiles appear in the European continent, this will be a step against peace of principled character on the part of the U.S. leaders and leaders of other NATO countries who act at one with them.

We do not see either that the American side is willing to handle in earnest the problem of limiting and reducing strategic armaments. They in the American capital are now busy launching the production of ever new systems of these armaments as well. They are to be followed shortly by such types of weapons which may radically alter the notions of strategic stability and the



very possibility of effective limitation and reduction of nuclear arms.

No one should mistake the Soviet Union's goodwill and desire to come to agreement for a sign of weakness. The Soviet Union will be able to make a proper response to any attempt to disrupt the existing military-strategic balance, and its words and deeds will not be at variance.

However, we are principled opponents of the competition in the production and stockpiling of weapons of mass annihilation. This is not our path, it cannot lead to a solution of any problem facing mankind, i.e. economic development of states, conservation of the environment, creation of the least elementary conditions for people's life, their diet, health and education.

The release of material resources, wrecklessly wasted on the arms race, and unfolding of inexhaustible creative potentialities of the man are the things that may unite people. This is what should determine the policy of states on the threshold of the 20th and 21st centuries. To implement all that, it is necessary that the forces of militarism be checked, and the world through concerted effort be kept from sliding into an abyss.

All peoples, every inhabitant of our planet should realise the imminent danger - to realise in order to pool efforts in the struggle for their own survival.

Mankind has not lost, nor can it lose its reason. This is manifested with great vigour in the scope of the anti-missile, anti-war movement, having mounted in the European and other continents, the movement which draws people of different social, political, and religious affiliation.

All who raise today their voice against the senseless race of armaments and in defence of peace can be sure that the policy of the Soviet Union, other socialist countries is directed at attaining precisely these aims. The USSR wishes to live in peace with all countries, including the United States. It does not nurture aggressive plans, does not impose the arms race on anyone,



does not impose its social orders on anyone.

Our aspirations and strivings are implemented in concrete proposals directed at effecting a decisive turn for the better in the world situation. The Soviet Union will continue to do everything possible to uphold peace on earth.



# NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE USSR

SOVIET EMBASSY, INFORMATION DEPARTMENT

1706 18TH STREET, N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20009

TELEPHONE 232-6020

September 20, 1983

## YURI ANDROPOV'S REPLY TO GROUP OF FRG BUNDESTAG DEPUTIES

Moscow, September 20. TASS. President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Yuri Andropov has received an appeal sent by a group of West German Bundestag deputies from the Social Democratic Party to deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet on the question of limiting nuclear armaments in Europe.

The authors of the appeal note that the Geneva talks on the limitation of nuclear armaments in Europe have entered a decisive phase. They are alarmed that a breakthrough may not be achieved at the talks by the end of 1983. A fear is expressed in this connection that the current year may end up with a dramatic escalation of the arms race.

The appeal says that the Federal Republic of Germany is the country with the highest density of nuclear weapon deployment in the world. About 6,000 nuclear warheads are stationed on its territory. As determined during a public opinion poll, 72 per cent of the West German population are against the stationing of new American nuclear missiles.

The appeal notes that, with poverty reigning in many parts of the world, people more frequently ask themselves: Does the world need an increase in the quantity of lethal weapons? Isn't it a crime to allow more than 10 million children to die from year to year in the world because much more money is spent for armaments than for measures against starvation?

"We," the deputies write, "are aware of the guilt of fascist Germany, which inflicted great suffering to other peoples this century. The Social Democratic deputies know the horrors of war, and therefore insistently seek support for the demands for an immediate end to any nuclear armament, for freezing all potentials of nuclear weapons, reducing the quantity of SS-20 missiles and renouncing the deployment of cruise and Pershing II missiles."

The appeal expresses the call for promoting the achievement of positive results at the Geneva talks. This is needed by the peoples of the USSR and the FRG. They are interested in coming closer to the goal of creating a Europe that is rid of all types of mass destruction weapons, in ensuring real security and the development of mutually advantageous cooperation.

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Yuri Andropov's reply to the group of Social Democratic deputies of the FRG Bundestag says: "The deputies of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, just like all Soviet people, share the concern expressed in your appeal about the spiraling of the arms race, about the lack of progress at the talks that are called upon not only to curb the arms race, but also to work toward the reduction of armaments, above all nuclear ones."

"It is our deep conviction that what is happening now directly contradicts the fundamental interests and aspirations of the people of Europe and the entire world. And it is those who bank on destabilizing international relations and gaining military superiority over the countries of socialism, as well as over all other countries, that are to blame for this.

"History has on more than one occasion upset such plans and ambitions. We are sure that this will also be the case this time, too. But what is needed for this is the most vigorous and decisive action to reverse the dangerous course of developments, to deliver humankind from the nuclear threat and to achieve a breakthrough at current disarmament talks.

"The world does not need bigger arsenals of deadly weapons. It needs their radical reductions and the use of the released funds to meet the pressing needs of economic and social development.

"Such is the firm conviction of the Soviet Union. Such is the viewpoint of all Warsaw Treaty member states. Such is the reply to the central question of your letter. The Soviet Union is doing everything possible to stop the sliding toward nuclear catastrophe. It is ready for extensive cooperation with all states on this issue of key significance for the future of humankind.

"You call on us to stop any nuclear arms buildup, freeze all nuclear weapons potentials and reduce the number of Soviet SS-20 missiles in case of the U.S. renunciation of the deployment of Pershing II and cruise missiles in Europe.

"Wholly sharing and backing these demands, the Soviet Union is prepared to go much further. We offer a quantitative and qualitative freeze on all nuclear armaments, that is, cessation of the quantitative buildup of all components of nuclear arsenals and the nondeployment of nuclear armaments of new kinds and types, the introduction of a moratorium on all tests of nuclear ammunition and on the testing of nuclear weapons delivery vehicles of new kinds and types. Our proposal on ridding Europe of nuclear weapons, both medium-range and tactical, also remains in force.

"And these are not merely good intentions. We maintain that this program should be immediately translated into the language of treaty-based commitments and then be implemented step by step in its entirety. The beginning can be made by the Soviet Union and the United States, by which we mean that other nuclear powers would act in a similar way.

"As for the Soviet SS-20 missiles, the Soviet Union is prepared to keep the same number of medium-range missiles as Britain and France have after the reductions in Europe.

"We recently took a major new step in the interests of achieving agreement by consenting to liquidate all missiles reduced in the European part, provided, naturally, that mutually acceptable agreement is reached on the problem of nuclear armaments in

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Europe as a whole, including the United States' refusal to deploy its new missiles and a corresponding reduction of medium-range aircraft. This step of good will on our part means that we would give up redeployment of medium-range missiles reduced in the European part to the Asian part of the USSR. Thus the concern expressed in the FRG that these missiles might be returned to the previous positions any time would be dispelled.

"Thus the Soviet Union is in favor of a sharp reduction, to one-third, of the medium-range nuclear arsenals in Europe and of preventing the deployment of new types of these armaments here in the future. And it does not make claims to keeping a single missile, a single plane more than NATO would have. It consents to large cuts in its armaments. So a question arises, What else is there that is needed for an honest and equitable arrangement? And do the United States and other NATO countries want agreement at all?

"Early in the seventies the USSR and the FRG were at the cradle of detente together. The peoples of our countries know the horrors of war and the value of peace. They are resolutely against the relapses to the cold war; they cannot look indifferently on how attempts are being made in the name of interests alien to Europe to delete everything positive that has been created by joint efforts of East and West European countries for the sake of the peaceful future of our continent.

"Indicative in this respect is also the fact that, as your letter indicates, 72 per cent of the population in the Federal Republic of Germany are against the stationing of new American missiles and favor continuation of the talks and the reaching of an accord in Geneva. You do not want the threat of war to emanate from the territory of your country, which would be a hell for the whole of humankind. We do not want this either. Everything must be done to prevent this from happening. This is within our abilities, this is in the interests of our and all European peoples. We express the hope that deputies of the FRG Bundestag--the country's supreme body of state authority--will act with a profound awareness of the duty and responsibility resting on them. There is still a chance to keep the world from being involved in a new round of the arms race."

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